

**Chevalier William La Peyronie to George Washington,  
September 5, 1754, Letters to Washington and  
Accompanying Papers. Published by the Society of  
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**FROM CAPTAIN PEYROUNY. <sup>1</sup>**

September 5, 1754

SIR

As I imagine you By this time, plung'd in the midst of Dellight heaven can aford: & enchanted By Charms even Stranger to the Ciprian Dame. [+ M's Nel] I thought it would Contribue a litle to the variety of yours amusemens to send you few lines to peruse.

I Shan't make Bold to Describe the procedings of the house, which no doute you have had already Some hint of. I only will make use of these three expressions related to those of the oracle: furtim venerunt} invane Sederunt} & perturbate Redierunt}

But all that is matere of indifference to the wirginia Regiment. Collo. Washington will still Remain att the head of it, and I spect with more esplendor than ever: for (as I hope) notwithstanding we will Be on the British stabichment, we shall be augmented to Six houndred & by those means entitle you to the Name not only of protector of your Contry But to that of the flower of the wirginians, By the powers you 'Il have in your hands to prove it So.—

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Many enquired to me about Muses Braveries; poor Body I had pity him ha'nt he had the weakness to Confes his coardise him self, & the inpudence to taxe all the reste of the oficiers withoutd exeption of the same imperfection. for he said to many of the Consulars and Burgeses that he was Bad But th' the reste was as Bad as he:<sup>2</sup>—

To speak francly had I been in town at that time I cou'nt help'd to make use of my horse's wheap for to vindicate the injury of that villain.

he Contrived his Business so that several ask me if it was true that he had challeng'd you to fight: my answer was no other But that he should rather chuse to go to hell thand doing of it. for had he had such thing declar'd: that was his Sure Road—

I have made my particular Business to tray if any had some Bad intention against you here Below: But thank God I meet allowais with a goad wish for you from evry mouth each one entertining such Character of you as I have the honnour to do my Self who am the Most humble

And Obediant of your Servants LE CHEVALIER DE PEYRONEY

his honour the Governor did Grand me the Capt. Comission after having being recomand to him from the house of Burgess and parlament and you Sir to whom I am infinitely oblig'd if th' was your pleasure I should stay some few dais more here below I should take is as a great favour not beeng yet well relaevd from my wond I beg'd it already from the governor which granted. I hope the same indulgence from you when you 'll be please to send me your orders my adress is at williamsburg at Mr. finis?

1 The Chevalier de Peyrouny was a Frenchman who had come to Virginia. He was much esteemed by Washington, who writes of him in a letter to Governor Dinwiddie, dated June 10, 1754, as follows: "Mr. Peyrouny may justly claim a share of your favor. His conduct has been governed by the most consummate prudence, and all his actions have sufficiently testified his readiness to serve his country, which I really believe he looks upon Virginia to be. He was sensibly chagrined when I acquainted him with your pleasure, of giving him an ensigny. This he had twelve years ago, and long since commanded a company. He was prevailed on by Colonel Fry, when he left Alexandria, to accept the former commission, and assist my detachment, as I had very few officers,

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till we all met on the Ohio, which commission he would now have resigned, and returned to Virginia, but for my great dissuasion to the contrary. I have promised to solicit your Honor to appoint him adjutant, and continue him ensign, which will induce a very good officer to remain in the regiment. Should you be pleased to indulge me in this request, I shall look upon it in a very particular light, as I think the personal merit of the gentleman, his knowledge of military duty, and his activity will render him highly worthy of the favor." Peyrouny had been wounded in the battle at Fort Necessity. He received a Captain's commission on August 25, 1754, and was killed at the defeat of Braddock, 1755.

2 The Major [Muse] in the expedition had been accused of cowardice at the affair of the Great Meadows, and his name was omitted in the vote of thanks to the officers by the legislature.—SPARKS.